

## Viewpoint

### Letters

Dear Editor:

Architectural salvage and the falsification of history, the subject of Carol Rosier's article (*CRM*, Vol. 17, No. 5), has been of concern to the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings at least since 1880 when it was raised at our Annual General Meeting.

The Society is still uneasy about it, for the reasons given in the article, but also for some related ones that may not apply in other countries. In Britain, we fortunately now have such effective legal controls over the demolition or stripping of historic buildings that much salvage that now comes on to the market legally is relatively recent. Sadly, this is less true of 19th century church fittings.

More serious is the problem of theft. Growing public interest in salvage has meant that high prices can be paid for chimneypieces, paneling and other decorative items. This has attracted the thieves, and many fine historic interiors have suffered from their crude attentions. Indeed, in Edinburgh, I recently saw several empty Georgian houses with prominent signs warning thieves that all chimney-pieces had been removed to safe storage. Nor is it only architectural features: traditional slate roofs on barns disappear over night.

It is, of course, a cannibalistic trade, which draws on a steadily decreasing source of supply. In Britain, small scale manufacturers of traditional materials such as stone slates find it hard to keep going. We would much rather that owners of old houses bought newly-made traditional materials, ensuring their long-term continuity, or in the case of decorative items use the skills of today's craftsmen.

Philip Venning,  
The Society for the Protection of  
Ancient Buildings  
London

Dear Editor:

Our congratulations on the interesting and informative thematic issue of *CRM* entitled "Archeology and the Federal Government" (Volume 17, No. 6, 1994).

We are concerned, however, about the article on page 33 on the National Park System Archeology Program which is an unrevised reprint of our article on the park archeological program contained in the *CRM Bulletin* of July 1988. During the six years that have elapsed since the origi-

nal article was published there have been important changes in the program. The 1994 published article contains out-of-date information.

The park system has grown from the 340 areas in 1988 to 366 areas today, about a 7% increase in park units. And the acreage of the system continues to grow through the addition and expansion of park areas, especially in the western United States. Also, there are eight research facilities instead of the four archeological centers listed in 1988, and approximately thirty parks have resident archeologists instead of ten, despite the fact that seven parks lost staff archeologists during the last year or so. This figure will continue to change since the number of park archeologists is expected to increase due to a professionalization initiative and a restructuring initiative designed to place more resource specialists in parks.

We also now have a functioning, albeit still developing, field-based applied ethnography program, which did not exist in 1988. Five of our regional offices have regional ethnographer positions (Alaska, North Atlantic, Pacific Northwest, Rocky Mountain and Southwest). The park-applied ethnography program addresses data development and effective partnerships with Native American and other communities with traditional associations to natural and cultural resources within units of the national park system. The goal is to promote informed protection and appropriate use of the cultural and natural ethnographic resources that associated groups value.

While the remainder of the article outlines the current park archeological program, we are concerned that some readers may cite the out-of-date information in discussing either it or the still developing park ethnography program. Accordingly, we hope that you will print this letter in the next issue of *CRM* to provide your readers with the current information on these two park system programs.

Again, we congratulate you and your many contributors on a very timely, useful, and informative thematic issue of *CRM*; and we appreciate the effort that went into its production.

Douglas H. Scovill  
Chief, Anthropology Division

Craig W. Davis  
Senior Archeologist

## Preservation Resources

### Publications

*A practical Introduction to Videohistory: The Smithsonian Institution and Alfred P. Sloan Foundation Experiment*, edited by Terri A. Schorzman. This book provides an introduction for historians to the use of video in research. Other books available in the Public History Series include *History Outreach: Programs for Museums, Historical Organizations, and Academic History Departments*, edited by J.D. Britton & Diane F. Britton; and *Corporate Archives and History: Making the Past Work*, edited by Arnita A. Jones and Philip L. Cantelon. For ordering information, contact Krieger Publishing Co., P.O. Box 9542, Melbourne, FL 32902-9542; 407-724-9542.

*The Beat of the Drum* by Don McDowell. The people, personalities, and events of Drum Barracks' colorful 130-year history are told in a highly readable style and is an indispensable story for history buffs of the Civil War and Indian wars in the far west. For more information, contact Drum Barracks Civil War Museum, 1052 Banning Blvd., Wilmington, CA 90744; 310-548-7509.

*Vestiges of Mortality & Remembrance: A Bibliography on the Historical Archaeology of Cemeteries*, by Edward L. Bell. With increasing demands for archeological assistance to identify and preserve threatened historical cemeteries, this comprehensive reference work will prove useful. An introductory essay provides an overview of scholarly trends and prospects, demonstrates the interpretive potential of historical mortuary sites, and offers a means to integrate multidisciplinary inquiry within a broader view of the historical past. This book will benefit archeologists, cultural anthropologists, and others involved in cemetery preservation and in the debate on the repatriation of curated human remains and funerary material.

For more information, contact Scarecrow Press, P.O. Box 4167, Metuchen, NJ 08840; 1-800-537-7107.

*Care and Maintenance of Wood Shingles and Shake Roofs*, by S.S. Niemiec and T.D. Brown. Pamphlet includes section on safety precautions as well as chemical, preservative, and oil treatments. To order, contact Oregon State University Extension Service, Publications Orders, Agricultural Communications, Administrative Services A422, Corvallis, OR 97331-2119; 503-737-2513. Also avail-

(Resources—continued on page 38)

**(Resources—continued from page 37)**

able is their *Educational Materials Catalog* (free) which lists a broad range of other informative publications.

*Historic Louisiana Nails: Aids to the Dating of Old Buildings*, by Jay D. Edwards and Tom Wells. This new study treats the development of nail-making technology, the gathering and preparation of historic nails, and strategies for the dating of old buildings. The book functions as a unique primer for the identification of the 12 basic nail types found in Louisiana area buildings dated between c. 1700 and 1900. For ordering information, write Geoscience Publications, Department of Geography & Anthropology, Louisiana State University, P.O. Box 16010, Baton Rouge, LA 70893-6010.

*How Superstore Sprawl Can Harm Communities and what citizens can do about it*, by Constance E. Beaumont. Discusses social, economic, and environmental problems caused by superstore development and provides readers with tools to stop or abate sprawl and encourage new development that enhances their towns. To order the 120-page guide, contact the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Department of Public Policy, 1785 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20036; 202-673-4031 or -4255.

#### **Preservation Briefs**

The Preservation Assistance Division of the National Park Service is now offering the newest "Preservation Briefs" (numbers 24-34) as a set for \$14.00. Stock Number: 024-005-01139-1. Make checks payable to Sup. Docs. and mail to: Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, P.O. Box 37194, Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7954.

## **Bulletin Board**

#### **Advisory Council Training Schedule**

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation will be offering 16 open enrollment sessions of its introductory training course, **Introduction to Federal Projects and Historic Preservation Law**, in 15 cities during 1995. Designed by the Council to explain the responsibilities of federal agencies under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), the course focuses on the requirements of Section 106 of NHPA, which applies any time a federal or federally-assisted project, action, or undertaking could affect a property listed on or eligible for the National

Register of Historic Places. Participants will learn the review and compliance process defined in the Council's regulations, "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR Part 800), and the procedures to follow in order to comply with the law.

In addition to the introductory course, the Council now offers an advanced course through a cooperative arrangement with the University of Nevada, Reno. **Advanced Seminar on Preparing Agreement Documents Under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act** is a detailed, expert-oriented seminar on how to prepare the paperwork required by the Council's regulations at 36 CFR Part 800: Memoranda of Agreement, Programmatic Agreements, and Determinations of No Adverse Effect. To qualify for the seminar, participants must have successfully completed "Introduction to Federal Projects and Historic Preservation Law" or have extensive experience working with Section 106 and its regulations.

To register for one of the sessions or to obtain additional information, call the University of Nevada, Reno's Division of Continuing Education at 1-800-233-8928.

#### **ALHFAM**

The annual meeting of the Association of Living Historical Farms and Agricultural Museums (ALHFAM) will be held in Tallahassee, FL February 3-5, 1995. This year's theme is "Living History: A Work in Progress." To register, contact the Tallahassee Museum of History & Natural Sciences, 3945 Museum Drive, Tallahassee, FL 32310; 904-575-8684.

#### **Call for Entries**

The White House invites entries for the Fourth Round of the Presidential Design Awards to recognize excellence in design accomplishments and to honor those individuals who have made outstanding contributions to federal design. Works that have been sponsored, authorized, commissioned, produced, or supported by the U.S. Government are eligible and must have been completed and in use between June 1, 1984 and June 1, 1994. Deadline for entries is October 31, 1994. For an entry form or information about the Awards, call Thomas Grooms at 202-682-5437.

#### **National Trust Conference**

The National Trust for Historic Preservation will hold its 48th National Preservation Conference in Boston, MA, October 26-30. Sponsored by the National Trust, National Park Service, The American Institute of Architects, The Trust for Public Land, Massachusetts Housing Finance Agency, and Massachusetts Historical Commission, this year's theme will be "Preservation, Economics and Community Rebirth."

For more information, contact Tuesday Georges at the National Trust for Historic Preservation, 1785 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20036; 202-673-4141.

#### **RESTORE Course**

A two-semester course on masonry conservation will be offered by RESTORE from October 1994 to May 1995. Participants will learn how to analyze and resolve complex problems they encounter daily when dealing with the maintenance and preservation of masonry structures.

RESTORE is a national not-for-profit educational corporation which, since 1976, has offered a range of programs related to building conservation and preservation maintenance technology to people in the building industry. The principle objective of RESTORE is to provide state-of-the-art education in building conservation and restoration technology to design professionals, craftsmen, contractors, building owners and managers, preservationists, and others in the building trades.

Tuition for the RESTORE Course on Masonry Conservation is \$1,200 which includes lab fees and printed course materials. For an application and further information about the RESTORE Program, contact Jan C.K. Anderson or Anne B. Jamieson at RESTORE, 41 East 11th Street, New York, NY 10003; Phone: 212-477-0114; Fax: 212-475-7424.

#### **New River Symposium**

Papers for the New River Gorge National River Symposium, to be held April 7-8, 1995 in Daniels, WV, are being requested in natural and/or cultural history, folklore, archeology, geography, other natural, physical and social sciences, and the humanities. Proposals must be received no later than December 1, 1994, and include a 250-400 word abstract. Mail to Chief of Interpretation, National Park Service, New River Gorge National River, P.O. Box 246, Glen Jean, WV 25846. For more information, call Park Headquarters, 304-465-0508.

#### **Historic Preservation Program**

The Goucher College Center for Continuing Studies, in cooperation with The National Park Service, The DC Preservation League, and the Historical Society of Washington, DC, will be offering historic preservation evening classes in Washington in the Fall of 1994.

The program, now in its third year, will enable participants to develop skills to work effectively in preserving our heritage, whether in restoring a home, understanding multiculturalism and ethnic heritage in revitalizing an inner-city neighborhood, serving on a commission or board, or working in a field ancillary to historic preservation. For more information, contact the Center for Continuing